APA Citation & Presenting an Argument w/ Abstract

APA Citation

Samuelson, S (2014, Apr 29). Why I Teach Plato to Plumbers: Liberal Arts and the
Humanities Aren't Just for the Elite. *The Atlantic.* Retrieved from
www.atlantic.com.

How to use in-text APA citation

- Lead in, "quote" (Samuelson, 2014).
- As Samuelson (2014) claims, "quote."
- Lead in, "quote" (as cited in Samuelson, 2014).

ABSTRACT (25-35 words)

As Samuelson (2014) claims, "Liberal arts and the humanities aren't just for the
elite." Liberal arts are a necessary facet of our free society and must be maintained
in school curricula.

APA Paragraph (200 to 250 words)

Samuelson (2014) argues that the liberal arts are crucial to a free and democratic
society and must therefore be maintained in school curricula. Samuelson refers
directly to Thoreau who wrote, "a liberal education originally meant among the
Romans one worthy of free men…"(as cited in Samuelson, 2014). Samuelson goes
on to explain that eliminating the liberal arts from education would create a schism
in social classes that would privilege the elite at the expense of the masses. This
imbalance would undermine the democratic principles upon which our nation was
founded. Furthermore, studying philosophy, literature, and art empower
individuals to handle the complexities and mysteries of life. Samuelson relays
numerous poignant tales of students who found solace or wisdom in the writings of
Schopenhauer, Quixote, and Kant (2014). These anecdotes stand in stark contrast to
the current trend of looking at "students as consumers" rather than as freethinking
individuals (Samuelson, 2014). Samuelson (2014) worries that this tendency
toward prioritizing money over learning ultimately serves to subordinate our
intellectual and cultural pursuits to "future employment and technological
progress." Jobs matter, but so do the arts. It is incumbent upon us to protect and
promote the liberal arts in our schools, for it is only then that the sparks of
imagination will continue to burn.